

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PC-2028358	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/IB 2002/004551	International filing date (day/month/year) 31-10-2002	Priority date (day/month/year) ---
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06F13/00, H04M1/725, H04Q7/22		
Applicant NOKIA CORPORATION ET AL		

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>																								
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table> <tbody> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. I</td> <td>Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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Date of submission of the demand 15-04-2004	Date of completion of this report 09-02-2005
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/IB 2002/004551

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):

the international application as originally filed/furnished
 the description:

pages _____ as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:
 pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:
 pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (specify): _____
 any table(s) related to the sequence listing (specify): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (specify): _____
 any table(s) related to the sequence listing (specify): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/IB 2002/004551

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-47</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>---</u>	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>---</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>1-47</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-47</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>---</u>	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

The application is concerned with a problem in prior art methods of indicating receipt of an SMS message that a user has no way of telling from whom the message is without having to actually enter the SMS inbox and check the message itself.

Documents cited in the International Search Report:

- D1. US 5579472 A
- D2. GB 2348082 A
- D3. EP 1111883 A2
- D4. US 5533110 A
- D5. WO 0201373 A1
- D6. US 5742779 A

D1, which is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art, discloses a method of displaying information pertaining to communications between a user and members in a selected group (see abstract and column 4, line 21-67). According to D1 a so called "VIP gallery" is displayed on the screen of a communications device. The VIP gallery consists of icons representing persons that the user of the computer terminal communicates with. An icon may include an image of the face of the corresponding individual. Together with the image is shown an indication of the number of new (unread) messages (for example emails) that has been received from the corresponding person.

D2, D3, D4, D5 and D6 are background art documents and are not considered to be of particular relevance.

..../...

Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of: Box V

Claims 1 and 19:

The communications device in D1 corresponds to the communication apparatus in the application. The icons in D1 obviously correspond to the icons in the application. The associations between icons and senders and the matching of icons and senders are equivalent in D1 and in the application.

The invention differs from D1 in that an icon is displayed when a message from the associated sender is received. In D1 the icons are constantly shown on the display.

The objective problem to be solved by the present invention is that the icons cover parts on the screen which could be used for viewing other information.

It is obvious to a skilled person to solve this problem by modifying the system in D1 so that the icons only appear on the screen when a new message has arrived. The skilled person would thereby arrive at the claimed invention.

It is stated in the response to the written opinion that D1 does not appear to represent the closest prior art since D1 does not disclose mobile terminals and SMS messages. However, the independent claims in the present application do not specify that the communications apparatus is a mobile terminal. Consequently, D1 is relevant to the claimed invention. Specifying that the communications apparatus is a mobile terminal would not result in an inventive step since no unexpected technical effects are achieved by using the claimed method in a mobile terminal.

According to the discussion above the invention according to the independent claims 1 and 19 is novel but is considered to lack an inventive step. The invention according to these claims is considered to be industrially applicable.

.../...

Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of: Box V

Claims 39, 46 and 47:

These claims state that the icons can be downloaded from a server. Since downloading of pictures and icons to computers terminals is a very common feature it is obvious to the skilled person to add this functionality to the system in D1. Thus, the invention according to the independent claims 39, 46 and 47 is novel but is considered to lack an inventive step. The invention according to these claims is considered to be industrially applicable.

Claims 3, 4, 16, 18, 21, 22, 36, 38 and 43-45:

These claims state that the invention is used in a mobile wireless system and uses a number of protocols and applications which are commonly used and well known within the area of wireless communications. The terminal in D1 could also be used in a wireless system (see for example column 4, line 67 - column 5, line 6) and it can receive phone calls. Therefore, it is obvious to the skilled person to include the commonly used features, which are mentioned in these claims, in the system in D1. Thus, the invention according to claims 3, 4, 16, 18, 21, 22, 36, 38 and 43-45 is novel but is considered to lack an inventive step. The invention according to these claims is considered to be industrially applicable.

Claims 2, 5-15, 17, 20, 23-35, 37 and 40-42:

In view of what is known from D1 it is not considered to require any inventive work by a person skilled in the art to provide the features as described in these claims. Thus, the invention according to claims 2, 5-15, 17, 20, 23-35, 37 and 40-42 is novel but is considered to lack an inventive step. The invention according to these claims is considered to be industrially applicable.